



MAPLE RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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OTTAWA-CARLETON
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Principal: Marianne Harvey
Office Administrator: Tanya Dumas
Office Assistants: Laura Stephenson, Diana Beattie
Trustee: Keith Penny
Superintendent of Schools: Mary Jane Farrish

Vice-Principal: Marc Laliberté
Chief Custodian: Dan Lepage
School Council Chair: Cynthia Allen

Our Mission Statement

"As a community of learners, we strive for and celebrate excellence in a diversity of ways and in all aspects of daily life"

March 2018

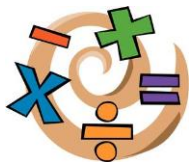
Happy spring to all our Maple Ridge families and friends!

It has been another long winter, but we are on our way to warmer weather! We have had many exciting events these past few months with our yearly winter activity days and many field trips and guest speakers for all grades. Our junior and intermediate teams have competed in basketball tournaments with fantastic results across the board! As we forge ahead, there are still many great things to look forward to. Blues in the Schools is continuing presentations for all of us. They are also doing workshops with some of our intermediates to develop their blues knowledge and performance abilities.

March Break will be from March 12th to the 16th. We hope all students and families will enjoy a much deserved reprieve from all the hard work put in at school! March 30th is Good Friday and April 2nd is Easter Monday. As such, there will be no school for all students on these days. Please note that April 27th is a PA Day meaning children will not be attending school on that date either. As you can tell, we still have much to do as we head into the final chapter of this school year. Your continued support both at home and at school is a big reason our kids are once again flourishing academically and socially. Please feel free to contact us if you want to find out more about your child's progression.

School Learning Plan and You

As a school and district we continue to promote mathematical conversations at home. In a recent OCDSB School Council newsletter the following was shared:



Math Facts - Talking With Children

When adults engage with children as they solve mathematics-related problems, the dialogue that takes place helps children to develop greater understanding of mathematical concepts. Adults can help children to shape

and articulate their thoughts, reinforce oral language, and develop mathematical vocabulary, by listening and responding to what children say. When they provide ample time for children to initiate conversation and respond to questions, adults demonstrate respect for the children's thoughts, opinions, ideas and wonderings. Learn more about effective ways in which parents can support children's mathematics learning here:

<http://www.edugains.ca/newsite/math/homesupport.html>

Student Appointments During the School Day

If your child has an appointment during the school day, please include a note to the teacher in their agenda or note tote with this information. This will help us help you get your child to their appointment on time.

We would suggest arriving 15 minutes prior to your appointment departure time to allow the office to call your child. Please be aware of recess times – it does take more time to find students once they are not in classes.



Moving?? School Organization for 2018-19

We are in the beginning stages of planning for next year. If your child is not returning to Maple Ridge in September 2018 because you are moving out of our attendance area, please let us know as soon as possible. This information will help us plan for September. Please also encourage any new neighbours in your area to come in to register or to give us a call and we will be pleased to guide them in this process.

Spring Weather: Warmer days are on the horizon (hopefully). With the annual thaw come muddy fields and many tempting puddles! Please try to send your child to school with a pair of outdoor shoes or rubber boots as well as designated indoor shoes. A spare pair of socks and pants, as well as splash pants, might be in order as well.

Our Motto
"Aiming for Excellence"

Medication at School

If you would like the school office staff to store and administer long-term prescription medications, it is mandatory to get your doctor to complete and sign the form available from the school office. These forms go into a medical log which must be updated annually at the start of every school year. This applies as well for students who have severe allergies and must use an Epi-pen. Medication will be administered to the students upon receipt of the completed form, signed by the doctor. This also applies to short-term prescription and over the counter medications. Please note that students can carry Epi-pens or Asthma inhalers with them. Parents/guardians should bring other prescriptions to the office.

Lunch Lady on Days Your Child is Away

There are strict guidelines regarding food safety and allergy management, therefore **if a child is absent, the meal is returned to the Lunch Lady**. If a child is going to be absent, a meal can be cancelled with full credit up until 8am on the "Lunch Lady day".

School Safety Reminders



To help to keep our school community safe, if you are a visitor to the school we require that you sign in at the office and wear a visitor tag. Thank you to our parents/guardians and guests who consistently follow this procedure. When

we see your visitor tag we know that you have signed in. If we do not see your tag we will ask you to sign in and get a visitor tag.

Reminder: Bus Safety



Everyone has a role in ensuring the bus is a safe environment for all, and OSTA is working with all stakeholders involved to make sure students understand bus safety rules, and then to make sure students are following those rules.

We appreciate your efforts to make sure your child understands the rules of the bus. We ask that you review the following rules with your child:

- 1) Board the bus in a single file, and hold the handrail.
- 2) Sit down in your seat quickly.

- 3) Keep your backpack on your lap, and keep your hands and legs out of the aisles.
- 4) Do not stand up on a moving bus. Wait for the bus to come to a complete stop before preparing to get off the bus.
- 5) Follow the bus driver's instructions.
- 6) Don't throw things or roughhouse.
- 7) Use the same voice on the bus as you would in the classroom. No shouting, please.

Volunteers in the School

We welcome volunteers! Whether it's through your child's homeroom, or through a school council committee, volunteers are always needed. Your support is invaluable, and we hope that you will find it enriching as well to join us in our efforts to provide the best programs possible for your children. If you are interested in volunteering, you are encouraged to contact your child's homeroom teacher(s).

Attendance

If your child is going to be absent or arriving late, please call and leave a message on our 24-Hour Attendance Line at 613-834-1927. You can also use our new attendance email: mapleridgeesattendance@ocdsb.ca
If your child is ill, please share the nature of the illness.

Mark Your Calendars

March 9th – Blues in the School Presentation (1:00 p.m.)

March 12th-16th March Break (no school)

March 20th – School Council Meeting (6:30 p.m. – library)

March 21st-22nd Mathletes (grades 2 to 6)

March 30th – Good Friday (no school)

April 2nd – Easter Monday (no school)

April 6th – Popcorn Day

April 16th – Grad Photos

April 27th P.A Day (no school)

